

Mississippi Legislature.

IN THE SENATE.

TUESDAY, JAN. 12.

After the transaction of some unimportant business, the President announced the following document, which was read. "Preamble and resolutions adopted at a meeting of the democratic citizens of Noxubee County."

"Whereas, the present embarrassed state of the finances of this State, call loudly for an expression of her citizens on that subject. Be it therefore resolved that we hold the faith of the State of Mississippi, as sacred as ever the Romans held the faith of ancient Rome, and on a footing with any of her sisters and as far as depends upon us we are willing to sustain her in meeting all her liabilities, promptly, and as quickly as the case will admit."

Resolved, That the present crisis demands the most rigid economy in our public appropriations, and a strict and punctual enforcement of our collection laws, and a strict and prompt payment of the public money when collected by the Tax Collectors.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be delivered to our Senator and our Representatives to be by them submitted to the Legislature."

W. B. TURNER, Chairman.

E. G. BOWEN, Sec'y.

Upon motion of Mr. Ives, the preamble and resolutions were laid upon the table.

Mr. Green offered a resolution requesting the Governor to pardon Elizabeth Stansal, alias Elizabeth Payne, at present a convict in the Penitentiary, which was decided in the affirmative by ayes and noes 16 to 13.

Mr. Green introduced a bill for the benefit of the Vicksburg and Jackson Rail Road, read twice and referred.

Mr. Green introduced a bill relative to the three per cent fund, which was read twice, and ordered to be engrossed and made the order of the day for to-morrow.

Mr. Alsbury, from the standing committee on finance, to whom so much of the Governor's message as relates to the foreign debt of the State and the sale of the State bonds was referred, reported a preamble and resolution in relation thereto.

On motion of Mr. Alsbury, the report was received, and the preamble and resolution were read, and on motion of Mr. Phillips, the same was laid on the table.

Mr. Phillips, from the same committee, introduced a counter report from the minority, which, on motion, was received and read.

Mr. Alsbury moved for the printing of one thousand copies of each report. Mr. Tucker moved that the report be laid on the table, which produced considerable discussion. Mr. Miller moved to adjourn to 3 o'clock, but withdrew it at the request of Mr. Kerr, who gave notice that he would on to-morrow move to amend a standing rule of the Senate.

The question was then put, and the Senate adjourned to 3 o'clock.

TUESDAY, JAN. 12. Sundry private and local bills were introduced and acted upon, when, on motion of Mr. Alsbury, the report of the majority from the finance committee was called up, and made the order of the day for Thursday; and on motion of Mr. Alsbury, the minority report was laid on the table.

On motion the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, JAN. 12.

In the House a good deal of local business was despatched, when the chair announced the arrival of the hour for the orders of the day.

A bill to divide the militia of Itawamba county, was read the second time, amended and passed.

A bill granting compensation to R. L. Matthews, of Tishomingo county, for the apprehension of a felon was read the first time, and referred to the committee of the whole forthwith. The Speaker called Mr. Ruff, of Noxubee, to the chair, and the further consideration of the bill was resumed.

Mr. Thompson moved to insert 200 dollars in the compensation, which gave rise to a long and somewhat angry discussion, in which a number of members participated. The question was finally put by ayes and noes, and 200 dollars was allowed, and the bill passed by its title.

A resolution from the Senate authorizing the committee on the Penitentiary to examine all persons they might deem necessary in the prosecution of their inquiries.

Mr. Murchison moved to amend the resolution from the Senate, by inserting all persons they may deem necessary, except the convicts, which, strange to say, was lost, and as the resolution now stands, the committee have power to examine and take the testimony of every convict in the Penitentiary. The general impression in the House was, that the amendment was a just, but it is certainly highly improper to allow the convicts to testify before a committee of the Legislature, for if this practice obtains, it is easy to see that the State will never be able to procure the services of efficient superintendents.

On motion, the House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 13.

Mr. Moore of Holmes, presented a petition from the citizens of Lexington praying the repeal of the act incorporating that town, which was referred to a select committee of three members.

Mr. Land from the committee appointed

to examine and report such of the documents accompanying the Governor's Message, as they might deem necessary, reported that they did not deem it necessary to publish any of them. Mr. Magruder, from the committee to whom was referred the petition of the northern stockholders of the Grand Gulf Rail Road and Banking Co., reported a bill authorizing the Company to wind up the Bank, which was read the first time. Mr. Leake, from the same committee announced that he would introduce a counter report. Mr. Mount introduced a bill for the relief of David Shelter, which was read the first time. Mr. Mount moved to suspend the rules and read said bill a second time. Mr. Murchison opposed a suspension. If this House had rules, they should be regarded and for himself, he was opposed to all suspensions. Mr. Mount explained and Murchison replied. His objections were not the bill but to the practice which was becoming too prevalent in this House. The motion to suspend the rules was put and lost.

Mr. Dobyas introduced a resolution calling on the Auditor of Public Accounts, to state what become of certain notes given for town lots in the City of Jackson, to the amount of \$130,000, not accounted for in his report of the 9th inst. which was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Offutt moved that the rule by which the House meets at 10 and 3 o'clock, be suspended, and that when it adjourns, it be to meet at 10 o'clock, A. M., which was adopted—so that the House will now have but one session per day.

The Chair announced the hour for orders of the day, when Mr. Allen of Hinds took the Chair, and the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole.

The first bill under consideration, was one introduced by Mr. Bradford at the early part of the session, to "define, when land included in the Indian reservations shall be deemed and held liable to taxation."

After some time spent in the discussion of this bill, upon motion of Mr. Murchison, the committee rose and reported it without amendment. Upon motion of Mr. Allen, the report was received and agreed to.

Mr. Bell moved a reference to the bill to the committee on the Judiciary, which he withdrew at the suggestion of Mr. Bradford, who moved that it be referred to a Committee of the Whole, and made the order of the day for to-morrow.

Mr. Wilcox introduced a resolution calling on the Auditor of Public Accounts to inform the House, upon what terms certain notes given for town lots in the City of Jackson, were placed in the hands of George Work, Esq. for collection? also, why the notes aforesaid were not placed in the hands of the Attorney General for collection? which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Allen, of Hinds, introduced a bill authorizing the commissioners of the Sinking and Seminary funds, to receive Treasury warrants, whenever tendered in payment of all debts due said fund.

Mr. Boon was opposed to the bill, the Sinking fund was already appropriated for the payment of interest on the bonds of the Planters Bank, and this legislature had no farther control over, and no right to direct it from the purpose to which it was applied by the transfer act of 1839. Mr. Allen replied and Mr. Boon succeeded in a few remarks, during which he read portions of the act referred to to sustain his positions.

Mr. Yerger, hoped the motion to reject would not prevail—it was a matter of great interest to the people of Mississippi, and he should be pleased to see it referred to the judiciary committee, or to a select committee. Several gentlemen addressed the House on the bill, after which Mr. Boon withdrew his motion to reject.

Mr. Dobyas' bill to reduce the salaries of certain officers, was called up, and on motion of the House resolved into Committee of the Whole on its consideration. Mr. Murchison of Natchez, in the Chair. After some discussion, the Committee rose and reported the bill without amendment. On motion of Mr. Murchison the report was received and agreed to. Mr. Cunningham offered a resolution to adjourn on Saturday, which lies over one day.

On motion of Mr. Graves the House adjourned.

Report of the Auditor Of Public Accounts, the Mississippi Legislature.

AUDITOR'S OFFICE, CITY OF JACKSON, JAN. 6, 1841.

Hon. J. A. VENTRESS, Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Sir—I herewith have the pleasure to hand you, to be placed before the body over which you preside, the Auditor's Report of the fiscal concerns of the Revenue Department, up to the 31st day of December, 1840.

Very respectfully, your ob'd serv't, A. B. SAUNDERS, Auditor of Public Accounts.

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR'S OFFICE, JACKSON, MISS., JAN. 6, 1841.

To the Honorable Legislature of the State of Mississippi.

Gentlemen.—In pursuance of the requisitions of the State, I have the pleasure of submitting to your honorable body, a detailed report of the receipts and disbursements of the public moneys, from the 1st day of January, to the 29th day of March, 1840; together with the receipts and disbursements from the 1st day of March to the 31st day of December, 1840, both dates inclusive.

There was remaining in the Treasury on

31st day of December, 1839, the sum of \$52,975 05

The receipts into the Treasury from the 1st day of January, up to the 29th day of Febr'y, 1840, were from the following sources, viz:

Received on account of state tax \$17,992 55 " " " State Capitol 856 25 " " " Pilot account 50 00

\$18,998 80 Total amount, \$71,974 45

And the disbursements during the same period are as follows, viz:

Disbursed on account of the Judiciary, \$14,612 67 Disbursed on account of the State Capitol, 2,353 33

Disbursed on account of the Penitentiary, 4,731 07 Disbursed on account of the State Library, 275 25

Disbursed on account of the Bank Commissioners, 1,378 24 Disbursed on account of the revolutionary soldiers, 500 00

Disbursed on account of the Executive Department, 750 00 Disbursed on account of the Governor's House, 1,900 00

Disbursed on account of the Commissioners for assessing, 485 71 Disbursed on account of the Legislative Department, 32,817 40

Disbursed on account of the Militia Department, 225 00 Disbursed on account of the Contingent fund, 913 50

Disbursed on account of appropriations, 37,239 01 Disbursed on account of the Miscellaneous Department, 1,216 00

\$99,299 18 Which shows the disbursements with warrants exceed the receipts, twenty-seven thousand three hundred and twenty-four dollars and seventy-three cents.

There were allowances made during the same time in settlement with Assessors and Collectors of Taxes, in claims against the Treasury, amounting to the sum of four thousand and eighty-five dollars and sixty-five cents, viz:

On account of Commissioners for Assessing, 700 00 On account of Commissioners for Collecting, 748 94

On account of the Judiciary Department, 1,976 92 On account of insolvencies and excess of taxation, 207 79

On account of Legislative department, 752 04 \$1,385 65

Which shows the disbursements to exceed the receipts, the sum of \$31,950 50, and which added to the amount over disbursed, up to the 29th day of February, 1840, the sum total of disbursements over the receipts is \$259,275 78.

There were allowances made during the same period, in settlements with Assessors and Collectors of taxes, in claims against the Treasury, amounting to the sum of thirty-one thousand two hundred and seventy-four dollars and thirty-six cents, viz:

On account of Commissioners for assessing, \$2,931 14 On account of Commissioners for collecting, 5,458 18

On account of the Judiciary Department, 13,860 79 On account of insolvencies and excess of taxation, 8,879 25

On account of the Militia Department, 70 00 On account of appropriations, 75 00

Making together with and without warrant the total expenditures from the 1st day of January up to the 31st day of December, 1840, both dates inclusive, the sum of five hundred and thirty-nine thousand, four hundred and fifty-seven dollars and fifteen cents.

There was a receipt warrant issued to the former tax collector of Warren county, for the sum of seven thousand seven hundred and fifteen dollars and sixty-three cents, on account of the State tax of said county, for the year 1839. Also, one to the former tax collector of Hinds county, for the sum of two thousand, one hundred and twenty dollars, on account of the State tax of said county for same year. Also, one to E. Mondy, Esq. for the sum of eight hundred and sixty dollars, on account of town lots, all three of which amounts, were not paid into the Treasury, and if deducted from the total amount of receipts, will show the neat balance actually paid into the Treasury, of one hundred and sixty-one thousand, eight hundred and fifty-one dollars and twenty-eight cents, from the 1st day of March to the 31st day of December, 1840.

The payment of the amounts borrowed from the Mississippi Union Bank, the expenditures on the public buildings, together with some extraordinary appropriations, has caused the disbursements largely to exceed the receipts into the Treasury for the past year.

The miscellaneous department includes all claims which do not properly belong to some one of the common revenue departments.—The amount of the Mississippi Union Bank loan, is placed to this department.

Exhibit marked A, accompanying this report, will show the whole amount of tax assessed in each county in this State, for the year 1839, together with the amount paid into the Treasury, and the balances still due. Those in arrears for the year 1839, will be notified that unless the respective amounts are paid by the 1st day of March next, their accounts will be placed for collection in the hands of the Attorney General.

I would again call your attention to the subject of reclaiming the lands in this State. When the present classification was made, some few counties in a direct line east of Adams and Wilkinson were considered very inferior, and the classes were made proportionate. Since then, thirty-eight new counties have been organized, a large portion of which contains land little inferior to those

within twenty miles of the Mississippi river, which are now classed at a valuation of from three to seven dollars per acre; while the lands in Yazoo, Madison, Noxubee, &c., are classed at from one to three dollars per acre, the same that the lands in Jones, Covington, Jackson, &c., are classed. A large portion of the lands have now become taxable, which, if equally arranged, will considerably augment the revenue of the State.

There is one half section of land donated by the United States, to this State, for a Seminary of learning, which was not disposed of at the sales in the year 1833.

Several tracts of the above mentioned lands which were sold, will revert to the State.—In some instances the purchasers and securities are all dead; the land is occupied by persons who are not bound for the payment of the same; timber is being destroyed, and the land wearing away. In such cases, I would respectfully suggest that an act be passed authorizing the contract to be cancelled. This would be preferable to obtaining judgment and selling the lands at Sheriff's sale, where they would bring a price far less than their value. In some instances there are no persons, either as principals, executors or administrators, on whom to serve a notice for the purpose of obtaining judgment.

I received from E. Kenneday, Esq. of Carroll county, the sum of four hundred and thirty-five dollars in Mississippi Union Bank paper on account of the Sinking Fund, a few days before the Planters' Bank declined taking the funds of said bank in payment of her dues, which was shortly after it was paid to me, tendered to said bank and refused to be received.

Any information which may be desired from this office, shall be promptly given. All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. B. SAUNDERS, Auditor of Public Accounts.

EXHIBIT A. STATEMENT showing the amount of taxes, the amount paid, and the amount due for the year 1839.

Table with columns: Counties, Amount of taxes, Amount paid, Amount due, over p'd.

Adams, \$32,893 75 \$32,543 75 \$350 00 Amite, 4,081 02 4,081 02 Attala, 713 84 615 44 98 42

Bolivar, 1,391 87 1,391 87 Carroll, 3,167 99 2,256 49 911 50 Chickasaw, 335 43 329 18 6 25

Choctaw, 888 92 865 33 23 59 Claiborne, 12,974 35 12,990 97 16 62 Clarke, 489 59 489 59

Copiah, 2,487 92 2,487 92 Coahoma, 754 76 751 76 Covington, De Soto, Franklin, 1,987 69 1,987 69

Franklin, 386 47 386 47 Green, 1,860 04 1,860 04 Hancock, 14,498 19 4,514 47 9,973 72

Hinds, 4,716 69 4,716 69 Holmes, 429 47 352 89 76 58 Itawamba, 405 41 405 41

Jasper, 1,523 66 1,523 66 Jefferson, 9,855 05 9,855 05 Jones, 143 17 143 17

Kemper, 1,359 19 1,359 19 Lauderdale, 943 56 943 56 Lawrence, 1,835 84 1,835 84

Leake, 359 95 324 00 35 95 Lafayette, 1,912 53 1,238 50 674 03

Lowndes, 6,345 47 6,345 47 Madison, 8,864 05 8,863 74 1,200 31

Marion, 1,455 60 1,455 60 Monroe, 1,692 45 1,692 45

Marshall, 3,733 55 2,078 67 1,654 88 Neshoba, 434 18 384 18 50 00

Newton, 331 44 331 44 Noxubee, 1,130 35 1,130 35

Ouachita, 623 58 623 58 Perry, 908 28 908 28 Pontotoc, 2,174 10 2,174 10

Ponola, 970 80 995 64 84 16 Rankin, 2,497 29 2,497 29

Scott, 345 87 206 00 139 87 Simpson, 805 43 805 43

Smith, 311 55 283 90 27 65 Tallahatchie, 1,005 14 1,011 21 96 07

Tunica, 180 77 180 77 Tippah, 1,933 00 1,910 21 23 39

Tishomingo, 18,466 79 2,342 78 16,124 01 Warren, 4,868 50 4,868 50

Washington, 683 66 683 66 Wayne, 6,970 03 6,970 03

Wilkinson, 980 12 242 00 738 12 Yazoo, 9,350 34 9,350 34

Yalobusha, 4,041 49 4,041 49

NOTE.—On a final settlement with the collectors the small amounts which appear to be due by them, will be settled by an allowance for their commissions for collecting, or insolvencies &c. &c. Vouchers filed to settle the balance due, since the 31st December.

FOREIGN NEWS. ARRIVAL OF THE ACADIA.

The steamship Acadia, which sailed from Liverpool on the 4th ult., at 4 P. M. arrived at Boston on Monday at two hours after noon. She encountered very boisterous weather, with long-continued head winds and a rough sea.

The Acadia brings intelligence of the safe delivery of the Queen of England, of a daughter, on the 21st of November. Also the capture of the celebrated St. Jean D'Acres, after a bombardment of three hours, which, however, would not have expelled the garrison, probably had it not been for the tremendous explosion of one of the magazines.

sets to the amount of 500,000. Its liabilities are set down at from 800,000 to 900,000.

Mr. John Wright was the main spring, the principal moving power, in raising and sustaining a great number of public companies in London and elsewhere.

BOMBARDMENT AND CAPTURE OF ST. JEAN D'ACRES.

The following details were published in the Malta Times of the 15th ult.:

The siege appears to have been one of the most brilliant on record, and proves that British genius and British valor have lost none of the power which rendered them, in days gone by, the dread of her enemies and the admiration of the world.

The result of this glorious affair is the reduction of a fortress, declared by the French incendiaries to be impregnable, to a heap of ruins, with a loss to the enemy of upwards of 2000 killed, 3000 prisoners, and a large number of wounded, the precise amount of which has not yet been ascertained; besides a large quantity of artillery and ammunitions of war, among them 300 pieces of field artillery, and 1200,000 in specie; Acre having been the grand depot and arsenal of Mehmet Ali. The garrison was supposed to have consisted originally of 6000 men.

The attack commenced a few minutes before 2 o'clock, on the 3d inst.

The carnage appears to have been dreadful, but the loss of the British seamen and marines, was as we have already said, very trifling.

Ibrahim Pasha was at Zebble, with from 15,000 to 20,000; but it is expected he will retire immediately, without so much as attempting to stand against the allied forces.

The base lies circulated by the Paris papers, of the betrayal of St. Jean D'Acres into the hands of the besiegers for British gold received from the above account abundant refutation.

One of the letters describes the state of the town thus: "On landing the place known to be strong was found even still more so than was conceived, and thanks may be returned to the Almighty, that this strong hold of the enemy has not cost the allies a greater loss of life. The town is one mass of ruins; the batteries and most of the houses are literally riddled all over; the killed and wounded lying about in all directions, lifeless trunks cut asunder, some without heads, others without legs and arms. Hundreds dying from the blood flowing from their wounds and no one near to help them. The scene was truly awful!"

A longer account of the bombardment concludes thus: "Such is the account of the taking of Acre, written twenty-four hours after the attack began, a city which baffled Bonaparte and French army, and has undergone, both in ancient and modern history, more numerous and desperate sieges than any other city in the world."

WHIG MEETING.

At a large and respectable meeting of the Whigs of Holmes county, convened in this place on the first Monday in January, in pursuance of a previous call, for the purpose of appointing delegates to attend the Whig State Convention to be held at Jackson on the first Monday in February, on motion of A. B. CORWIN, Col. WM. M. LANSDALE, was called to the Chair, and G. H. THOMAS, appointed Secretary. After the object of the meeting had been explained by the Chair, the Hon. Judge Wilson, submitted the following preamble and resolutions, which were adopted without a dissenting voice.

Whereas it has been recommended to hold a Whig Convention at Jackson; at some early period, for the purpose of nominating a candidate for the office of Governor, and candidates for Congress of the United States for the State of Mississippi, together with such other officers as it may be thought proper to present to the consideration of said Convention:

And, Whereas, we believe that a crisis has arrived in the affairs of the State demanding the utmost union and activity amongst those who feel an interest in redeeming the affairs of the State from its present pecuniary embarrassments, as well as from the threatened destruction of its public character:

Therefore Resolved, That we do most heartily concur in the propriety of calling a Whig State Convention to be held at Jackson, and that we do also approve of the first Monday in February as the most suitable time for holding the same.

Resolved, That the maintenance of the public faith of the State is demanded alike by every principle of public justice and sound policy.

Resolved, That we have full confidence in the ability of the State to meet and faithfully discharge all its public engagements, and in the integrity of the great body of the people and of their readiness to do and submit to whatever duty and justice may require.

Resolved, That the following gentlemen be, and are hereby appointed Delegates to said Convention:

Lewis G. Galloway, John Kenn, John F. Williams, Lemuel Doty, A. J. Patterson, Alney Bridges, Wm. S. Byrd, Washington Berry, J. H. Blake, Dr. I. S. Mitchell, A. B. Corwin, Judge A. Wilson, G. Kierac, Col. Thomas Land, J. M. Moore, Henry Brown, Col. W. H. Townes, Albert Harris, Thomas Mathar, Wm. T. Counts, J. C. Weimore, K. Harrington, J. A. Thomas, Ozias Taylor,

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